



San Antonio skyline (Spectrum News/File)

Youth Center Established after Six-Month Renovation

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SAN ANTONIO -- Following a six-month renovation, the Frank Garrett Multi-Service Center reopened on Friday.

- City services for bettering the education, recreation opportunities and health
- **NXT Level Youth Opportunity Center** aims to reengage young adults between the ages of 16 and 24
- Approximately 30,000-35,000 young adults in San Antonio are currently unemployed or not in school

The center offers new community programs and city services for bettering the education, recreation opportunities and health of San Antonio residents.

A portion of the space now houses the city's newest initiative: [NXT Level Youth Opportunity Center](#), which aims to reengage young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are disconnected from education, work or major social institutions.

"No one should feel as though they are limited by their current circumstances. Our focus with this new center is to connect our unemployed youth population with the education and job training resources they need to get on their feet," City Manager Sheryl Sculley said.

Approximately 30,000-35,000 young adults in San Antonio are currently unemployed or not in school.

To help meet their personal, educational and career goals, the city allocated \$760,000 in 2019 budget to establish a youth re-engagement center.

The NXT Level Youth Opportunity Center, managed by the City's Department of Human Services in coordination with Goodwill and Communities in Schools, assists disengaged youth with the steps necessary to go back to school or find a job related to their interest.

Anyone between the ages of 16-24 who resides in San Antonio qualifies for the services and can either schedule an appointment or walk in to meet with a NXT Level coach.

"We won't stop working until every youth in this community has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential," Mayor Ron Nirenberg said.

Also new to the center is a home-teaching program for families with children who live with asthma. Children in Bexar County have the highest asthma-related hospitalization rates of all large counties in Texas.

The program utilizes case management and a series of home visits to decrease the number of hospitalizations and missed days of school for those children living with asthma. Metro Health will also continue providing immunization services at the center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as it has done since 2013.

Additionally, the city's Parks & Recreation Department received increased funding to provide full-service recreation programming year-round at the Frank Garrett Multi-Service Center. Parks & Recreation will also offer out-of-school camps, the Summer Youth Program and activities for teens.

The NXT Level Youth Opportunity Center received generous support from JPMorgan Chase & Co. through a \$150,000 grant to Goodwill for education, training and career guidance.

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